FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Historic insurance archive to be auctioned in support of young people across the UK

UK Youth has welcomed a unique charitable auction from Intact Insurance, which will see a rare collection of historic insurance artefacts brought out of archive and into the public domain to raise funds for young people across the UK.

The collection, many items of which have never previously been available to the public, will be sold across two auctions hosted by Special Auction Services (SAS) in Newbury on **9 June** and **7 July**.

The auctions will feature artefacts connected to the history of Intact Insurance and the wider industry, including rare fire marks, historic documents, signage, silverware and artwork. Together, the collection offers a remarkable insight into how insurance has helped protect communities, support progress and shape modern Britain.

From a signed insurance claim linked to Sir Winston Churchill to early safety guidance and unusual items such as a medal awarded to a fire-alerting dog, the collection tells a broader story of resilience, protection and everyday life across generations.

Turning heritage into opportunity

What began as more than 4,000 archive boxes has become an opportunity to create lasting impact for young people.

Through this initiative, Intact Insurance is transforming its heritage into practical support - with all proceeds from the auctions helping to fund UK Youth's work with young people and youth organisations across the country.

At a time when young people are facing growing challenges - including barriers to employment, rising mental health pressures and unequal access to opportunity - investment in youth work has never been more important.

Across the UK, youth workers provide trusted relationships, safe spaces and opportunities that help young people build confidence, develop skills and find their sense of purpose. UK Youth supports a national network of thousands of youth organisations to widen the reach and deepen the impact of this work.

Supporting the next generation

Funds raised through the auctions will directly support programmes delivered by UK Youth, helping young people to access opportunities, develop confidence and take meaningful steps towards their futures.

Every item sold represents more than a piece of history - it is an investment in the next generation.

UK Youth and Intact Insurance are working in partnership to support young people through initiatives such as Building Aspirations, a national employability programme supporting young people aged 18–24 who are not in education, employment or training, or at risk of becoming so.

Through youth work-led support, employer engagement and practical opportunities, the partnership is helping young people build the skills, confidence and belief they need to thrive.

Rosie Ferguson, OBE, UK Youth Chief Executive Officer, UK Youth, said: "Every day, youth organisations in UK Youth's network provide life-changing opportunities, safe spaces to grow and access to a trusted adult – all crucial to supporting the next generation. Intact Insurance has reaffirmed their long-term commitment to UK Youth through their generous donations of the proceeds of these auctions to help us widen the reach and deepen the impact of youth work and outdoor learning."

Tracey Fisher, Archive and Historical Records Director at Intact Insurance, said: "These artefacts represent an important part of insurance history and deserve to be seen and appreciated by people who recognise their significance.

"For many years, these items have been carefully preserved within our archives. By bringing selected pieces into the public domain, we are ensuring they can continue to be recognised and appreciated, while also helping create positive impact for young people through our partnership with UK Youth.

"These auctions are an opportunity to connect the heritage of our industry with practical support that can help young people build confidence, develop skills and take positive steps towards their future."

How to take part

Supporters can register to view the auction catalogue and place bids online, by telephone or in person through Special Auction Services.

Further information is available at: [insert link]

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Notes to editors

About the Auctions:

- Two charity auctions will take place on **9 June** (fire insurance themed) and **7 July** (general archive collection).
- Hosted by Special Auction Services in Newbury.
- All proceeds will support UK Youth's work with young people across the UK.

Some of the standout lots in the collection include:

- **Pioneering Electrical Safety Guidelines, 1882**
  One of the most historically significant items in the auction is a rare early edition of the Phoenix Fire Office's electrical safety rules, created by engineer Thomas Musgrave Heaphy in 1882. Developed at a time when electricity was still a new and uncertain technology, the guidance helped shape modern electrical safety standards in the UK and beyond. Included alongside the document is the signed 1909 copyright transfer, valued at just ten shillings, offering a remarkable glimpse into the origins of modern risk management.

- **Captain Marshall Presentation Cup, Hull Fire of 1801**
  This striking silver presentation cup tells the story of a dramatic fire aboard a ship docked in Hull in 1801. Awarded by the Phoenix Fire Office to Captain John Marshall for his bravery and leadership during the incident, the cup has survived for more than 200 years and remains an extraordinary piece of maritime and insurance history. Its unexpected rediscovery within the archive only adds to the mystery surrounding the piece.

- **Madame Tussaud's Archive Inventory, 1856**
  Among the more unusual discoveries is a handwritten letter linked to Madame Tussaud's, believed to date from 1856, documenting additions to the famous waxwork collection. Preserved within the Alliance Assurance archive for more than a century, the papers offer a rare glimpse into the early development of one of London's most iconic attractions, with parts of the document still waiting to be fully deciphered.

- **The Winston Churchill Burglary Claim, 1959**
  The auction also includes records connected to a remarkable insurance claim involving Sir Winston Churchill. Following a burglary at the Churchill family home in Hyde Park Gate in 1959, Alliance Assurance handled the claim covering stolen valuables including jewellery, fur coats and Sir Winston's cigars. The crime was never solved, making the archive material a fascinating snapshot of both British history and the discreet role insurance played behind the scenes.

- **Zulu the Fire-Alerting Dog, 1898**
  One of the most charming items in the collection is a solid silver medal awarded to "Zulu", a dog credited with saving a Glasgow household from fire in 1897. After persistently barking to alert the family to danger, Zulu was honoured by Alliance Assurance with a specially commissioned medal recognising the dog's "tenacious

sagacity". More than a century later, the medal remains a unique reminder of the unexpected heroes found within insurance history.

About Intact Insurance

Intact Insurance is a leading provider of Commercial and Specialty insurance solutions for businesses of all sizes across the UK and Ireland and through its Global Network in over 150 countries worldwide. Formerly known as RSA Insurance, Intact Insurance is part of Intact Financial Corporation (TSX: IFC), the largest provider of Property and Casualty insurance in Canada and a leading Specialty lines insurer with international expertise. At Intact, our purpose is clear - to help people, businesses and society prosper in good times and be resilient in bad times. For more information visit intactinsurance.co.uk

About UK Youth

UK Youth is a leading youth work and outdoor learning charity with a vision that all young people are equipped to thrive and empowered to contribute at every stage of their lives. With an open network of more than 9,000 youth organisations and nation partners; UK Youth reaches more than four million young people across the UK and is focused on unlocking youth work as the catalyst of change that is needed now more than ever. To find out more, visit: https://www.ukyouth.org